

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Based on the output signal of an area sensor 1, a level adjustment circuit 2 adjusts the bias voltage fed to the transistors provided within the individual pixels of the area sensor 1 and operating in a subthreshold region and thereby adjusts the 5 level of the output signal of the area sensor 1. According to whether the subject is illuminated with intense or dim light, the level of the output signal is lowered or raised, respectively.